THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT COMMUNION SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2009

*Indicates congregation standing if able. Congregational responses indicated in bold.



GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Still, Still, Still arr. Luboff

Vocalist: Micki Anderson, Dianne Griffith, Jim Condon, Phil Walsh

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Sovereign One of Israel,

who comes to us and sets us free.

God has raised up for us a mighty Savior,

born of the house of God's servant David.

Bless the Lord!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We have prepared the pathway into our fellowship. We have worked hard to fill every valley and level the mountains so that all might feel welcome. We have claimed and named our prejudices that we might overcome them. The rough ways of our hardened habits have been made smooth as we trusted in you to show us new ways to share together in fellowship. We desire to see your salvation for all people, all around the world. Save us! Deliver us! Rescue us! These things we pray, earnestly hoping for your presence. Amen.

LIGHTING THE 2ND CANDLE OF ADVENT

Candle Lighting Scripture Reading

Prayer

*HYMN OF CALL # 12

People, Look East

BESANCON

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Cleansing God, we hear the call to repentance,

but we struggle to respond.

A voice tells us to turn around,

but we prefer our own ways.

You seek to purify us in the furnace of your love,

but we constantly elude your searching hand.

Our sin leads us in other directions, away from you, away from life.

Look with mercy on us.

Clear a place within us so that something new might be born, something that will return us to way you have shown us in Jesus Christ.

...(silent and personal confession) Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI # 579

Glory Be to the Father

H. W. Greatorex

CHORAL ANTHEM

Hear the Bells of Advent Ring - Sleepers Wake

Susan Kochanet

THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1-4

PSALMS: Psalm 122

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:68-79

SERMON "Preparing the Way"

The Rev. Craig Hendrix

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed (Traditional)

Hymnal Page 15

INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Go Tell It on the Mountain

arr. Hayes

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 592

The Doxology

OLD 100th

*DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE EUCHARIST

*HYMN OF PREPARATION # 13

Prepare the Way

F. M. Franzen (1771-1847)

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF BLESSING # 9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*SUNG RESPONSE # 540 God be with you till we meet again; RANDOLPH

> Loving counsels guide, uphold you. With a Shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

*POSTLUDE Deck the Halls arr. Coates

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Liturgist: Liz Singley Acolytes: Paul Jackson and Will Jackson

Ushers: Jim Schall and Jack McNew Organist and Pianist: Mary Hook Advent Candles: The Jackson Family Choir Director: Laura Walker

Communion Preparation: Peggy Sheppard Sound: Greg Murr

BETHEL STAFF

Rev. Richard Hettrick, D. Min. – Pastor Emeritus Rev. Craig Hendrix – Interim Pastor

Susan Cutts – Administrative Assistant Deb Hyder – Parish Nurse Mary Hook - Organist and Pianist Laura Walker - Choir Director Chris Badger – Bell Choir Director

John Carter - Custodian

Linda Gerth - Nursery

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Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

~ a community of faith coming together, for fellowship, study and service . . . seeking God's peace, justice and love ~



A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.
When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us" rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks, please put those in the offering plates.